

In The Claims:

Please amend claims 1-18, as follows.

1. (Presently Amended) A device for forming an image from a plurality of sub images, the device comprising which is composed of a plurality of sub-areas ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ), which device includes

- a single-surface detector which includes a plurality of sensor elements for generating image data, said sensor elements arranged in groups for forming a plurality of sub-areas ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ) of the image, where each sub-image corresponds to each sub-area;

- read-out units ( $V_1$  to  $V_N$ ) which are associated with the sub-areas ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ) of the image,

- an analysis unit (12) which is arranged to evaluate image data from adjoining image areas ( $S_{63}$  and  $S_{66}$ ) of neighboring sub-areas ( $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ) and to generate correction data, and

- a correction unit (13) which is arranged to correct incorrect image data by means of the correction data.

2. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 1, wherein

characterized in that the detector includes a plurality of sensor elements which are arranged in rows and columns forming a matrix.

3. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the

characterized in that rows or columns, or parts thereof, constitute an image area, that a plurality of image areas constitute a sub-area, and wherein that amplifiers are included arranged so as to read out image data from the sub-areas.

4. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising

characterized in that

there is provided a memory (14) for storing the correction data.

5. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 1, wherein

characterized in that the image data is applied to the analysis unit (12) at a reduced rate.

6. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 31, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~ the analysis unit (12) is arranged to receive image data from adjoining columns  
of neighboring amplifiers, and  
includes a histogram generator (15) for generating histograms of the image data received, and  
a summing unit (16) for forming cumulative histograms from the histograms, and  
an adaptation unit (17) for forming a functional dependency between the amplification  
characteristics of the amplifiers of neighboring columns and for generating correction data.

7. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 6, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~ the histogram generator (15) is arranged to receive the image data and to  
generate histograms over a selectable period of time.

8. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~  
the analysis unit further comprising (12) includes  
means (20) for forming an estimated value ( $SW_{65}$ ) for the image value ( $GW_{65}$ ) of a pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) of a  
sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected, the pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) being situated at a boundary (G) with a neighboring sub-  
area ( $T_1$ ), while utilizing an image value ( $GW_{64}$ ) of the adjoining image area ( $S_{64}$ ) of the neighboring  
sub-area ( $T_1$ ), and  
means (21, 22) for forming a correction value for the relevant image value ( $GW_{65}$ ) in the sub-area  
( $T_2$ ) to be corrected by comparison of the actual image value  $SW_{65}$  of the pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) with the  
estimated value ( $SW_{65}$ ).

9. (Presently Amended) TheA device as claimed in claim 8, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~  
the analysis unit further comprises includes means (20) for extrapolating across the boundary (G) the  
image values ( $GW_{63}$ ,  $GW_{64}$ ) of pixels ( $P_{63}$ ,  $P_{64}$ ) of an image area ( $S_{63}$ ,  $S_{64}$ ) of the neighboring sub-  
area ( $T_1$ ), adjoining the pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) of the sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected.

10. (Presently Amended) A method of forming an image using image data acquired from which is composed of a plurality of sub-areas ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ) of a flat dynamic x-ray detector, wherein a read-out unit ( $V_1$  to  $V_N$ ) is associated with each sub-area, and wherein  
~~characterized in that the~~  
image data from adjoining image areas ( $S_{63}$  and  $S_{66}$ ) of neighboring sub-areas ( $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ) is evaluated in order to mitigate differences between amplifier characteristics.

11. (Presently Amended) TheA method as claimed in claim 10, further including determining  
~~characterized in that~~  
an estimated value ( $SW_{65}$ ) ~~is determined for an image value ( $GW_{65}$ ) of a pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) of a sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected, the pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) located being situated at a boundary ( $G$ ) with a neighboring sub-area ( $T_1$ ), said estimating carried out while utilizing the image value ( $GW_{64}$ ) of a pixel ( $P_{64}$ ) of the adjoining image area ( $S_{64}$ ) of the neighboring sub-area ( $T_1$ ), and determining a correction value for the relevant image value ( $GW_{65}$ ) in the sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected being determined by comparison of the actual image value ( $GW_{65}$ ) of the pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) and the estimated value ( $SW_{65}$ ).~~

12. (Presently Amended) TheA method as claimed in claim 10, further including using  
~~characterized in that~~  
a directly adjacent pixel of the neighboring sub-area ~~is used as the estimated value of the image value.~~

13. (Presently Amended) TheA method as claimed in claim 10, further including extrapolating  
~~characterized in that~~  
the image values ( $GW_{63}$ ,  $GW_{64}$ ) of pixels ( $P_{63}$ ,  $P_{64}$ ) of the adjoining image area ( $S_{63}$ ,  $S_{64}$ ) of the neighboring sub-area ( $T_1$ ), ~~are extrapolated across the boundary ( $G$ ) in order to determine the estimated value ( $SW_{65}$ ).~~

14. (Presently Amended) TheA method as claimed in claim 10, further including forming  
~~characterized in that~~

a first correction value ~~is formed~~ for the image value ( $GW_{65}$ ) of a pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) of the sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected, and determining an estimated value ( $SW_{64}$ ) for the neighboring pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) is determined for a neighboring pixel ( $GW_{64}$ ) of the neighboring sub-area ( $T_1$ ), directly adjoining this pixel ( $P_{65}$ ) of the sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected, the forming and determining while utilizing image values ( $GW_{65}$ ,  $GW_{66}$ ) of the sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected, forming a second correction value being formed by comparison of the estimated value ( $GW_{64}$ ) and the actual image value ( $GW_{64}$ ) of the neighboring pixel ( $P_{64}$ ), and forming a common correction value for the relevant image value ( $GW_{65}$ ) of the sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to be corrected being ~~formed~~ from the first and the second correction value.

15. (Presently Amended) TheA method as claimed in claim 10, further including forming characterized in that

a common correction value for the relevant image value in the sub-area to be corrected is ~~formed~~ from the correction values for the same image values of different pixels of the sub-area to be corrected.

16. (Presently Amended) TheA method as claimed in claim 10, further including storing characterized in that

the correction values for the image values of the individual sub-areas ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ) are stored in an adaptation table (LUT) and are fetched from this table (LUT) for correction.

17. (Presently Amended) An X-ray examination apparatus which includes an X-ray source for emitting X-rays and for forming an X-ray image,

a flat dynamic ~~an~~ X-ray detector for forming an optical image from the X-ray image, which detector includes sensor elements arranged in rows and columns and at least two amplifiers ( $V_1$  to  $V_N$ ) for reading out detected image data, at least one amplifier being associated with each of a plurality of sub-areas sub-area ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ) in order to read out detected image data, comprising characterized in that the apparatus includes

an analysis unit ( $+2$ ) for forming correction data on the basis of the evaluation of image data from adjoining image areas ( $S_{64}$  and  $S_{65}$ ) of neighboring sub-areas ( $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ), and

a correction unit (13) for correcting the incorrect image data by means of the correction data.

18. (Presently Amended) A computer program for the correction of image data derived from ~~of an image a single-surface detector comprising which is composed of~~ a plurality of sub-areas ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ), wherein a respective read-out unit ( $V_1$  to  $V_N$ ) is associated with sub-areas ( $T_1$  to  $T_N$ ) of the image and image data from image areas ( $S_{64}$  and  $S_{65}$ ) of adjoining sub-areas ( $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ) of neighboring read-out units ( $V_1$  and  $V_2$ ) is evaluated by formation of histograms in order to generate correction data after integration of the histograms, which correction data is used to adapt the image data from one sub-area ( $T_2$ ) to the amplifier characteristic of the read-out unit ( $V_1$ ) which amplifies the adjoining sub-area ( $T_1$ ).